



Agricultural Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: January 27, 2025
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Council Chambers
7 Broadway Street West
Paris, ON

Present: Mayor Bailey, Councillors Kyle, and Coleman, Members Aulsebrook, Eddy, R. Miller, Snyder, and Vos

Regrets: Members Hodge, L. Miller, and Sharp

Staff: Bergeron, Vink, Kitchen, and Pluck

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1. Attendance

Attendance was taken.

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Spencer Pluck, Deputy Clerk called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee. Councillor Coleman nominated Member R. Miller. Member R. Miller accepted the nomination. There were no more nominations for the position of Chair.

Moved by Councillor Coleman
Seconded by Councillor Kyle

That nominations for the position of Chair be closed;

And that Member R. Miller be declared Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Carried

S. Pluck called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee. Councillor Coleman nominated Member Vos. Member Vos accepted the nomination. There were no more nominations.

Moved by Mayor Bailey
Seconded by Councillor Kyle

That nominations for the position of Vice Chair be closed;

And that Member Vos be declared Vice Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Carried

Member R. Miller in the Chair.

3. Approval of Agenda

Councillor Kyle noted an addition under other business.

Moved by Councillor Coleman
Seconded by Councillor Kyle

That the agenda for the January 27, 2025 Agricultural Advisory Committee be approved, as amended.

Carried

4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests

None.

5. Delegations / Petitions / Presentations

None.

6. Adoption of Minutes from Previous Meetings

6.1 Agricultural Advisory Committee Minutes of November 25, 2024

Moved by Member Vos
Seconded by Mayor Bailey

That the Agricultural Advisory Committee minutes of November 25, 2024, be approved.

Carried

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

Brief discussion was held regarding gateway signs between the City of Brantford and the County of Brant, with there being no updates at this time.

8. Agricultural Planning Applications

None.

9. Staff Reports

9.1 RPT-0538-25 Chickens in Residential Areas - Draft Regulations and Next Steps

Jessica Kitchen, Planner appeared before the committee and provided an update on chickens in residential areas. J. Kitchen presented the draft by-law and license application for backyard hens in non-urban residential zones and advised that further consultation took place with the County of Brant's Operations Department, Grand Erie Public Health, Risk Management Official, and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness. She concluded with advising that a report on the implementation and next steps of chickens in residential areas will be going forward to the February Policy Development Committee for consideration.

In response to questions, J. Kitchen advised that feedback from public engagement, experts, and the Agricultural Advisory Committee were considered for the development of the draft by-law, and that the by-law focuses on the non-urban residential zones.

In response to questions, Greg Bergeron, Director of Enforcement & Regulatory Services spoke to the guidelines and regulations outlined within the by-law. He advised that there is no grandfather clause within the by-law, and individuals will be expected to come into compliance within a reasonable time frame.

The committee held discussion pertaining aviary influenza and the enforcement of provisions within the by-law.

In response to further questions, J. Kitchen advised that a monitoring approach can be built into the report coming forward to the February Policy Development Committee which can allow staff to address the program as required.

Moved by Councillor Coleman
Seconded by Councillor Kyle

WHEREAS Council initially directed Staff to investigate permitting chickens in all residential areas of the County (Option 3 of [RPT-0454-23](#)), subject to specific regulations, licensing, inspections, and public consultation;

AND WHEREAS Staff identified potential additional operational costs and resource needs for Enforcement Services under Option 3, as outlined in [RPT-0270-24](#), to address complaints and safety concerns;

AND WHEREAS public engagement concluded in 2024, and Council subsequently directed Staff to proceed with Option 2 of [RPT-0454-23](#) to permit chickens only in non-urban residential areas, subject to regulations and required by-law amendments;

THAT Committee receive RPT-0538-25 – Chickens in Residential Areas for information;

AND THAT comments on the newly drafted 'Backyard Hen By-Law' be included in a recommendation report for consideration by the Policy Development Committee in February 2025;

AND THAT Staff provide further project updates to this Committee via email or memorandum.

Carried

10. Communications

None.

11. Other Business

Councillor Kyle advised that members of County of Brant Council and staff attended the ROMA conference and met with the Ministry of Transportation with respect to the moving of agricultural equipment on highways. She noted it was a positive conversation.

12. In Camera

None.

13. Next Meeting and Adjournment

Committee adjourned at 9:40 am to meet again on Monday, February 24, 2025 at the County of Brant Council Chambers.

Secretary